

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel 1-21 and 24-39 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 22 and 23 as follows. A copy of all pending claims follows with each claim including a status identifier pursuant to the proposed revisions to 37 CFR 1.121:

Claims 1-21 (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The process according to claim 21, further comprising~~
Process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, comprising:

performing a zonal conditioning of a plurality of zones across a width of the felt belt
by measuring at least one of:

fibrous material web cross direction profile;

felt belt cross direction profile; and

permeability of the felt belt across the width of at least one of the web and the
belt;

conditioning said felt belt depending on measuring results obtained for a respective
zone; and

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diluting, outside of the machine, the conditioning medium,

wherein said zonal conditioning comprises supplying separately adjustable amounts of conditioning medium to various zones in accordance with respective target values, and wherein said target values are variable.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The process according to claim 21,~~ Process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, comprising:

performing a zonal conditioning of a plurality of zones across a width of the felt belt by measuring at least one of:

fibrous material web cross direction profile;

felt belt cross direction profile; and

permeability of the felt belt across the width of at least one of the web and the belt;

conditioning said felt belt depending on measuring results obtained for a respective zone,

wherein said zonal conditioning comprises supplying separately adjustable amounts of conditioning medium to various zones in accordance with respective target values,

wherein said target values are variable, and

wherein the supplying of conditioning medium occurs at least partially by way of at

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least one traversing application unit, and determining the amount of conditioning medium supplied to each zone by using a lag time of the traversing application unit in the respective zone.

Claims 24-39 (Canceled).

40. (New) A process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, the process comprising:

measuring, to determine measuring results, at least one of:

fibrous material web cross direction profile;

felt belt cross direction profile; and

permeability of the felt belt across the width of at least one of the fibrous material web and the circulating felt belt;

calculating a mean value from the measuring results; and

conditioning each of a plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt depending on the measuring results,

wherein an intensity of the conditioning in each zone of the circulating felt belt depends upon a deviation between the measuring results obtained for a respective zone and the mean value, and

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wherein the conditioning is utilized to achieve an optimum dry matter content and good moisture cross direction profile of the fibrous material web.

41. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the machine comprises a paper making machine.

42. (New) The process according to claim 41, wherein the fibrous material web comprises one of a paper or cardboard web.

43. (New) The process according to claim 42, wherein the fibrous material web cross direction profile comprises a moisture cross direction profile of the fibrous material web.

44. (New) The process according to claim 43, wherein the felt belt cross direction profile comprises a water content of the circulating felt belt.

45. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of a traversing spraying nozzle.

46. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning occurs at least

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partially by way of at least one spraying pipe that includes several nozzles.

47. (New) The process according to claim 46, wherein the at least one spraying pipe is zonally controllable.

48. (New) The process according to claim 47, further comprising moving said at least one spraying pipe across the width of the circulating felt belt.

49. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of at least one pipe suction apparatus.

50. (New) The process according to claim 49, wherein the at least one pipe suction apparatus is zonally controllable.

51. (New) The process according to claim 50, further comprising moving the at least one pipe suction apparatus across a width of the circulating felt belt.

52. (New) The process according to claim 51, wherein the at least one pipe suction apparatus includes a ceramic body extending at least essentially across an entire width of the

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circulating felt belt, and wherein the process further comprises:

subjecting the circulating felt belt to vacuum by way of a slotted surface formed in the ceramic body, and

variably adjusting, by zones, an effective slotted portion of the slotted surface, to vary, a respective effective time of being subjected to vacuum.

53. (New) The process according to claim 52, further comprising variably adjusting, by way of movable tongues, the effective slotted portion of the slotted surface.

54. (New) The process according to claim 53, wherein the movable tongues comprise metal tongues.

55. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of at least one traversing short pipe suction apparatus including a ceramic body provided with a slotted surface by way of which the circulating felt belt is subjectable to vacuum, and wherein the process further comprises:

variably adjusting by zones, an effective slotted portion of the slotted surface to vary a respective effective time of being subjected to vacuum.

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56. (New) The process according to claim 55, wherein the effective slotted portion of the slotted surface is variably adjustable by using movable tongues.

57. (New) The process according to claim 56, wherein the movable tongues comprise metal tongues.

58. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning comprises supplying separately adjustable amounts of conditioning medium to various zones in accordance with respective target values.

59. (New) The process according to claim 58, wherein the respective target values are variable.

60. (New) The process according to claim 59, further comprising diluting, outside of the machine, the conditioning medium.

61. (New) The process according to claim 58, wherein the supplying occurs at least partially by way of at least one traversing application unit, and wherein the process further comprises:

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determining amounts of the conditioning medium supplied to each zone by using a lag time of a traversing application unit in a respective zone.

62. (New) The process according to claim 58, wherein the supplying occurs at least partially by way of a plurality of stationary nozzles provided across the width of the felt belt, with a corresponding number of valves being assigned to the stationary nozzles, and wherein the amount of conditioning medium supplied is determined for each zone by way of a respective valve assigned to a respective stationary nozzle.

63. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the conditioning comprises supplying conditioning medium across a width of the circulating felt belt.

64. (New) The process according to claim 63, wherein the conditioning medium comprises conditioning chemicals that are mixed into conditioning water.

65. (New) The process according to claim 63, wherein the conditioning medium comprises conditioning chemicals supplied to at least one conditioning device provided only for chemical conditioning.

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66. (New) The process according to claim 63, further comprising providing a zonal regulation of the supplied conditioning medium.

67. (New) The process according to claim 40, wherein the measuring comprises measuring at least the felt belt cross direction profile and wherein the conditioning comprises adjusting zonal conditioning elements across the width of the circulating felt belt.

68. (New) The process according to claim 67, wherein the felt belt cross direction profile is measured by way of an online measuring device, with a closed-loop control preferably being formed in connection with each of the zonal conditioning elements.

69. (New) The process according to claim 67, further comprising setting at least one of:

predeterminable felt mean value; and

predeterminable ratio of a felt mean value for at least one of an upper felt and a lower felt.

70. The process according to claim 67, further comprising setting at least one of a predeterminable felt mean value and a predeterminable ratio of a felt mean value, depending

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on at least one of a desired dry matter content and moisture cross direction profile after at least one of a pressing nip.

71. (New) The process according to claim 70, further comprising:

measuring online, immediately after a press section, at least one of a moisture cross direction profile and dewatering amounts occurring at at least one of grooves and a pipe suction apparatus; and

adjusting the zonal conditioning elements depending on a measured result obtained in the measuring online.

72. (New) A process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, the process comprising:

measuring a cross direction profile of the fibrous material web;

determining measurement results for a plurality of zones of the fibrous material web;

measuring at least one of:

a cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt; and

a permeability of the circulating felt belt transverse to a running direction;

determining measurement results for a plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt;

and

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conditioning the plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt depending on the measurement results obtained for respective zones of the fibrous material web and the circulating felt belt.

73. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the machine comprises a paper making machine.

74. (New) The process according to claim 73, wherein the fibrous material web comprises one of a paper or cardboard web.

75. (New) The process according to claim 73, wherein the cross direction profile of the fibrous material web comprises a moisture cross direction profile of the fibrous material web.

76. (New) The process according to claim 75, wherein the cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt comprises a water content of the circulating felt belt.

77. (New) The process according to claim 75, wherein the measurement results of the cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt relates to water content.

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78. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of a traversing spraying nozzle.

79. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of at least one spraying pipe that includes several nozzles.

80. (New) The process according to claim 79, wherein the at least one spraying pipe is zonally controlled.

81. (New) The process according to claim 79, further comprising moving said at least one spraying pipe across the width of the circulating felt belt.

82. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of at least one pipe suction apparatus.

83. (New) The process according to claim 82, wherein the at least one pipe suction apparatus is zonally controlled.

84. (New) The process according to claim 82, further comprising moving the at least

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one pipe suction apparatus across a width of the circulating felt belt.

85. (New) The process according to claim 83, wherein the at least one pipe suction apparatus includes a ceramic body extending at least essentially across an entire width of the circulating felt belt, and wherein the process further comprises:

subjecting the circulating felt belt to vacuum by way of a slotted surface formed in the ceramic body, and

variably adjusting, by zone, an effective slotted portion of the slotted surface, to vary the vacuum in a respective zone.

86. (New) The process according to claim 85, further comprising variably adjusting, by way of movable tongues, the effective slotted portion of the slotted surface.

87. (New) The process according to claim 86, wherein the movable tongues comprise metal tongues.

88. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning occurs at least partially by way of at least one traversing short pipe suction apparatus that includes a ceramic body having a slotted surface that subjects the circulating felt belt to vacuum, and wherein

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the process further comprises:

variably adjusting, by zone, an effective slotted portion of the slotted surface.

89. (New) The process according to claim 88, wherein the effective slotted portion of the slotted surface is variably adjustable via movable tongues.

90. (New) The process according to claim 89, wherein the movable tongues comprise metal tongues.

91. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning comprises supplying separately adjustable amounts of conditioning medium to various zones in accordance with respective target values.

92. (New) The process according to claim 91, wherein the respective target values are variable.

93. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning comprises applying a diluted conditioning medium.

94. (New) The process according to claim 91, wherein the supplying occurs at least partially by way of at least one traversing application unit, and wherein the process further comprises:

determining amounts of the conditioning medium supplied to each zone by using a lag time of a traversing application unit in a respective zone.

95. (New) The process according to claim 91, wherein the supplying occurs at least partially by way of a plurality of stationary nozzles provided across the width of the circulating felt belt, with a corresponding number of valves being assigned to the stationary nozzles, and wherein the amount of conditioning medium supplied is determined for each zone by way of a respective valve assigned to a respective stationary nozzle.

96. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the conditioning comprises supplying conditioning medium across a width of the circulating felt belt.

97. (New) The process according to claim 96, wherein the conditioning medium comprises conditioning chemicals that are mixed into conditioning water.

98. (New) The process according to claim 96, wherein the conditioning medium

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comprises conditioning chemicals supplied to at least one conditioning device provided only for chemical conditioning.

99. (New) The process according to claim 96, further comprising providing a zonal regulation of the supplied conditioning medium.

100. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein the measuring comprises measuring at least the cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt and wherein the conditioning comprises adjusting zonal conditioning elements across the width of the circulating felt belt.

101. (New) The process according to claim 100, wherein the cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt is measured by way of an online measuring device utilizing closed-loop control.

102. (New) The process according to claim 100, further comprising setting at least one of:

predetermined felt mean value; and

predetermined ratio of a felt mean value for at least one of an upper felt and a lower

felt.

103. The process according to claim 100, further comprising setting at least one of a predeterminable felt mean value and a predeterminable ratio of a felt mean value, depending on at least one of a desired dry matter content and moisture cross direction profile after at least one of a pressing nip.

104. (New) The process according to claim 72, wherein measuring occurs online and immediately after a press section and wherein the process further comprises:
adjusting conditioning elements depending on the online measuring.

105. (New) A process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, the process comprising:

measuring, in a plurality of zones, a cross direction profile of the fibrous material web and a cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt;

determining deviations between values measured in the plurality of zones and a mean value; and

conditioning each of the plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt depending on the deviations.

106. (New) A pipe suction apparatus for conditioning a circulating felt belt according to the process of claim 105, the apparatus comprising:

a ceramic body extending at least essentially across the entire width of the circulating felt belt;

said ceramic body being provided with a slotted surface by way of which the circulating felt belt is subjectable to vacuum, with a respective effective amount of slotted surface being zonally variably adjustable by way of movable tongues.

107. (New) The pipe suction apparatus according to claim 106, wherein said movable tongues comprise metal tongues.

108. (New) The pipe suction apparatus according to claim 106, wherein the respective effective time is varied.

109. (New) A traversing pipe suction apparatus for conditioning a circulating felt belt according to the process of claim 105, the apparatus comprising:

a ceramic body provided with a slotted surface by way of which the circulating felt belt is subjectable to vacuum, with an effective amount of slotted surface being variably adjustable by way of at least one movable tongue.

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110. (New) The traversing pipe suction apparatus according to claim 109, wherein the at least one movable tongue comprises a metal tongue.

111. (New) The traversing pipe suction apparatus according to claim 109, wherein a respective effective time of being subjected to vacuum is correspondingly varied.

112. (New) A process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for producing a fibrous material web, the process comprising:

measuring a cross direction profile of the fibrous material web and at least one of;

a cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt; and

a permeability of the circulating felt belt across a width of the circulating felt belt;

determining a mean value from measured values taken across a width of the fibrous material web;

determining deviations between the measured values and the mean value; and

conditioning each of a plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt depending on the deviations.

113. (New) A process for conditioning a circulating felt belt of a machine for

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producing a fibrous material web, the process comprising:

measuring a cross direction profile of the fibrous material web and at least one of;

a cross direction profile of the circulating felt belt; and

a permeability of the circulating felt belt across a width of the circulating felt belt;

determining a mean value from measured values taken across a width of the circulating felt belt;

determining deviations between the measured values and the mean value; and

conditioning each of a plurality of zones of the circulating felt belt depending on the deviations.